

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9625

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5782

USDOC FOR BEWT/DOWNEY

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EEWT, US, UR

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH PREMIER
KOSYGIN

1. BROOKS MCCORMICK, PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER,
BRIEFED COMOFF ON HIS HOUR-LONG MEETING WITH PREMIER KOSYGIN
APRIL 24 DURING PRIVATE VISIT TO MOSCOW FOR BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS
WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS.

2. MCCORMICK SAID KOSYGIN DEVOTED FIRST HALF HOUR TO BITTER
DISCOURSE ON "ADVERSARY TACTICS" OF US CONGRESS, SINGLING OUT
SENATOR JACKSON BY NAME. PREMIER STRESSED THAT NEITHER SIDE
OWED OTHER ANYTHING AND THAT SOVIT UNION WAS PROUD COUNTRY WHICH
COULD NOT ACCEPT DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT. DISMISSING POTENTIAL
\$300 MILLION EX-IM CREDIT LINE, KOSYGIN SAID HE WOULD LOAN
MCCORMICK \$500 MILLION ON HIS PERSONAL NOTE ALONE. HE EVEN
PULLED OUT OLD SAW THAT MCCORMICK WAS SAFE TO TALK STREETS OF
MOSCOW WHILE HE WAS LIKELY TO BE MUGGED IN CENTRAL PARK.

3. MCCORMICK ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT KOSYGIN REMAINED CALM
DURING DISCOURSE, DID NOT ENGAGE IN PERSONAL CHARACTERIZATIONS
AND RECOGNIZED THAT MCCORMICK DID NOT SHARE CONGRESSIONAL VIEWS.

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THERE WERE NO THREATS OF ANY KIND, AND IH'S FUTURE IN USSR WAS

NOT LINKED TO REVISION OF TRADE LEGISLATION.

4. DURING SECOND HALF HOUR DISCUSSION MOVED TO FRIENDLIER TOPICS AS MCCORMICK DESCRIBED IH'S LONG INVOLVEMENT IN RUSSIA/USSR AND PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY TRUCK AXLE COMPENSATION PROJECT. KOSYGIN APPARENTLY NOT WELL INFORMED ON IH PROPOSALS, BUT MCCORMICK IMPRESSED WITH HIS THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF SOVIET AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY.

5. KOSYGIN APPEARED IN GOOD HEALTH AND GAVE MCCORMICK IMPRESSION OF COMPETENT, DYNAMIC EXECUTIVE. MEETING ALSO ATTENDED BY V.N. SUSHKOV, DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (WHO CONFESSED TO MCCORMICK THAT HE HAD NOT MET PREMIER BEFORE) AND IH VICE PRESIDENT ROBERT MACMINAMEN, WHO TOOK COMPLETE NOTES. STOESEL

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